



Viaduct Federation of Schools

Year 2 Spring 1 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New Year and welcome back to Wyvern! We hope you have all had a good Christmas. This half term our Topic is learning about Castles and all the wonderful things that relate to them! We will be learning about the History and features of a castle. We will also be finding out about different Kings and Queens and learning about Warwick Castle. We will be learning about jobs in the castle and learning about its defences.

Subject Overviews

English

In English we are going to be reading stories about dragons. We will be writing our own imaginative fantasy stories about dragon adventures. We will be writing in paragraphs and will be using a range of suffixes in our spellings. We will then be writing historical recounts about the life of William the Conqueror and using a range of punctuation and writing in the past tense. We will end the half term by using non-fiction features to write about Warwick Castle.

Maths

We will begin the half term by focusing on number. The children will be counting in scales of two's, fives and tens. They will then embed their skills in using the column methods to solve addition and subtraction word problems. They will be exchanging and bridging across ten. In multiplication and division children will be writing number fact families and solving two step word problems. In fractions, children will recognise, find, name and write $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity. Please continue working at home on the multiplication and division facts for the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables. It would also be beneficial to practise telling the time to every five minutes and using coins to find the correct change.

Guided Reading

In Guided Reading sessions, children will have the opportunity to explore poetry including The Sound Collector and The Sleepy Dragon. The children will be learning to recognise repetition, alliteration and rhyme. They will build up a repertoire of poems and learn some poems by heart.

RWI and Spelling

Children will be continuing RWI and following the RWI spelling programme. We are going to be focusing on reading with speed, accuracy and intonation. We will be encouraging the children to alter how they read depending on the punctuation and character. They will be reviewing their sounds and consolidating spelling words. The children will be given spellings to learn every week. They will have their spelling test each Monday.

Science

In Science, Year 2 will be planting cress and bulbs and investigating different environments. They will be looking at the difference between a bulb and a seed. They will write a set of instructions on how to plant a seed or bulb using technical language, time openers and adverbs.

PE & Games

This term in PE children will continue having their PE sessions. They will be working on Dance and invasion games. In Dance they will be learning dances that would have been performed in castles such as the Waltz.

PE Kit Reminder: The children have PE on Thursdays. Please can children wear a long sleeved top and jogging bottoms or leggings in case it is cold outside.

Music

In Year 2, we have a specialist music teacher, Mrs Rawlence. Children will learn how to identify and follow a simple song structure and rhyme pattern. They will learn how to change voices to suit different characters while performing appropriate actions. They will also learn how to incorporate new characters, actions and remember the order.

History

The children will learn about the history of castles and how they have changed over time. They will study the different aspects of life in the castle and learn about William the Conqueror and Warwick Castle.

PSHE

We are going to be learning about our role in the community and recognising similarities and differences between people. We are going to be recognising how their behaviour and that of others may influence people both positively and negatively.

Computing

This unit develops learners' understanding of instructions in sequences and the use of logical reasoning to predict outcomes. Children will use given commands in different orders to investigate how the order affects the outcome. They will also learn about design in programming. They will develop artwork and test it for use in a program. They will design algorithms and then test those algorithms as programs and debug them.

DT

Children look at different castle designs and use these to create their own drawbridge. They will need to design, produce, and evaluate the mechanisms and materials used in their castle.

Home Learning

We ask that children read each day for 10 minutes. Each child in Year 2 will be issued with a level-appropriate reading book provided by school. It really helps their progress if they are heard regularly at home and we would ask you to sign their personal log each time you hear them. The children will be set a new spelling list once a week. Their new lists are to be stuck into their personal logs. They will be tested on their spellings in their sets each Monday. We find that a few minutes every day really helps the children to learn and remember their spelling patterns and rules.

Assessment

As part of transition, and to help us best support your child, we will be asking your child to carry out some assessments. These will include maths, reading, grammar, spelling and writing assessments.



Upcoming Events in Year 2

- Wednesday 25th January – Visit to Warwick Castle

BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

Did you know we now have a Facebook page?

We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!



